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— nages 8-3

JANUARY 27, 2008 62nd year, number 11

# the Bulletin

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# CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

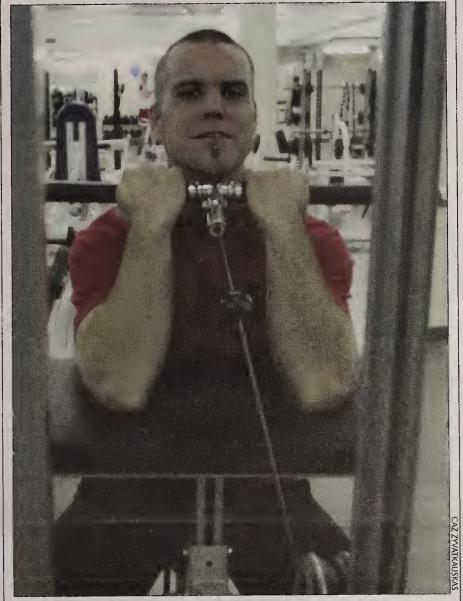
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Feb. 12 is the deadline for nominating faculty and staff members for the 2009 Awards of Excellence, sponsored by the University of Toronto Alumni Association. Visit http://alumni.utoronto.ca/s/731/index.aspx? sid=7318-gid=18-pgid=663 for more

WWW.NEWS.UTORONTO.CA/
BULLETIN.HTML

information.

## WEIGHING IN THE NEW YEAR



The Athletic Centre's new equipment brings a smile to the face of Tim Cary, strength and conditioning specialist. (See story on page 6.)

# Undergraduate calendar to undergo changes

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

Next fall some undergraduate students at the St. George and U of T Mississauga campuses will see changes to their academic calendars that will build more study breaks into the year and ultimately help them get a head start on the search for summer jobs.

The Arts and Science Council has given final approval to changes in the

faculty's academic calendar year that will come into effect in September 2009. The calendar for the fall/winter session 2009-10 will have several major modifications, including 12 weeks of instruction for each term rather than 13 weeks, while the winter term will always end by April 30. Reading week will stay the same.

• • • ACADEMIC ON PAGE 4

# Academic art arsenal

U of T's curatorial expertise shines

BY TAMMY THORNE

Across the globe, prominent curators are joining university environments to expand their international research and exhibition practices. Toronto is no exception — U of T is attracting top curators making important moves on the Canadian and international art scene.

U of T is using its formidable in-house expertise both to showcase its impressive permanent collections and cutting-

edge contemporary art and also to enlighten students on the working world of art.

The university is home to the third largest fine art gallery in Toronto — the University of Toronto Art Centre (UTAC) — along with four other art galleries, including the Blackwood Gallery at the University of Toronto Mississauga. Both UTAC and

• • • ACADEMIC ON PAGE 8

# U of T adopts new mail, calendar system

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

**For U of T staff** and faculty who rely on e-mail to communicate and on ecalendars to schedule meetings, life is about to get a whole lot easier.

E-mail and calendaring systems have become important tools for staff and faculty at the university but UTORmail and UTORschedule have fallen behind in terms of meeting the functionality and availability demands of the users.

For example, there was very little sharing of data between the desktop client, web client, PDA or calendar. Another challenge has been capacity; users have lost the ability to receive e-mail if they exceeded their storage quotas of 120 megabytes.

The university is hoping to address many of these problems by adopting the Microsoft Exchange environment to replace webmail, IMAP e-mail and Oracle calendar programs UTOR-schedule and UTORmail. The new system is called UTORexchange. It will have improved availability, better data protection, more capacity and better functionality. This system will allow for a seamless integration of e-mail, webmail and calendars and give users more secure access to their work tools.

"Users can expect to have seamless integration between the web interface and the desktop interface if they're using Outlook," said **Peter Eden** of Computer and Network Services (CNS), the Exchange implementation project manager. "The goal is to provide the additional functionality that people have been asking for; they'll also have more storage space."

The new system will also provide a single common contact list for e-mail, webmail and calendar, more convenient and more secure access to folders and a single user interface, regardless of the user's location or the device being

used. UTORexchange also offers better connectivity to PDAs such as BlackBerries and iPhones and users will be able to recover accidentally deleted messages using the "recover deleted items" tool without involving IT support.

Eden said the U of T community has been asking for this additional functionality for at least five years. Several town halls and feedback from the community since 2007 led to UTORexchange.

Starting in mid-January, users received an e-mail asking them to migrate their e-mail to the new system before Feb. 27

• • • NEW on page 4

### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

# The winter blahs ...

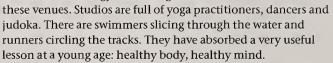
**are setting in** about now across all three of our campuses. It's grey, it's cold and it's tempting to hole up in one's office or home and avoid leaving the security and warmth except when absolutely necessary.

Understandable behaviour, certainly, and winter is a wonderful time to curl up with a good book, but it's also time to fight the temptation to cocoon by indulging in some exercise.

Indulging, you might wonder? Leaving a comfortable chair, couch or cubbyhole is more akin to torture. But thousands of

students are demonstrating that such thinking is wrong. They are combating the winter blahs by staying active.

Although the University of Toronto is renowned largely for its brains, don't tell that to the hundreds who flock to Hart House, the Athletic Centre, UTM's Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre or UTSC's University Fitness and Racquet Club. Drop by any evening and you'll be amazed at the energy emanating from



The two aren't mutually exclusive. In fact, the mind-body connection is a powerful one. Keeping your body fit benefits your mental fitness, too. Just ask any of the topnotch researchers at the Faculty of Physical Education and Health. Run that idea by any one of the myriad Varsity Blues athletes. They'll remind you that exercise keeps the mind nimble, as will any of the excellent researchers studying Alzheimer's disease at the Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases.

And the folks at phys ed have made it even easier to enjoy the benefits of exercise with the reopening of the Athletic Centre's strength and conditioning facilities (see page 6).

This is no time to rest on your (underused, underexercised) laurels. Don't go gently into the not-so-good January night. Get out there and get moving.

Cheers,

Claine

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# the Bulletin

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The top and sidebar art on the front page is composed of a traditional dragon dance photographed on the St. George campus in celebration of the Chinese New Year.



## FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Professors Barry Adams of civil engineering, Mark Fox of mechanical and industrial engineering, Jim Wallace of mechanical and industrial engineering and University Professor Michael Collins of civil engineering have been elected fellows of the Engineering Institute of Canada in recognition of exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada. Adams has conducted innovative research on urban water resource infrastructure system planning and design. Fox has done groundbreaking work in both the theory and application of artificial intelligence in industrial systems, while Wallace is an internationally known researcher in the area of alternative fuels used in internal combustion engines. Collins' research contributions on the shear behaviour of reinforced concrete have received international recognition and he has also received numerous awards for his teaching. A federation of technical societies, the institute is the leading proponent of continuing education and technical professional development in the Canadian engineering community.

## FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE Professor Virginia Aksan of Near

and Middle Eastern civilizations has been elected president of the Middle East Studies Association. MESA is a non-profit, non-political learned society that brings together scholars, educators and those interested in the study of the region from all over the world. From its inception in 1966 with 50 founding members, the association has increased its membership to more than 3,000 and now serves as an umbrella organization for more than 60 institutional members and 39 affiliated organizations.

**Professor Timothy Harrison** of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations has been elected president of the American Schools for Oriental Research for a three-year term ending 2011.

## AWARDS & HONOURS

Founded in 1900, ASOR is a non-profit organization dedicated to the archeology of the Near East and boasts 1,300 individual members, 94 institutional members and three affiliated overseas research institutes. Its mission is to initiate, encourage and support research into, and public understanding of, the peoples and cultures of the near East from the earliest times.

Professor Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations has been elected president of the International Society for Iranian Studies, formerly the Society for Iranian Studies, beginning December 2008. Founded in 1967 as an academic society to support and promote the field of Iranian studies at the international level, the society is a nonprofit, non-political organization of persons interested in Iranian studies in the broadest sense and is an affiliated member of the international Middle East Studies Association.

## LAWRENCE S. BLOOMBERG FACULTY OF NURSING

**Professor Kelly Metcalfe** is one of the *Toronto Star*'s 10 to watch in 2009. Metcalfe has devoted her research career to helping women navigate the hard choices that come with preventing breast cancer, the second biggest killer of women in Canada, according to the Jan. 4 article in the *Star*. "Metcalfe is just beginning to be recognized for her groundbreaking work, which experts in the field say will garner international attention this year," the article states.

## **LESLIE DAN FACULTY OF PHARMACY Professor Sandy Pang** is the recipient of the

Service Award of the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and drug section of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. Pang received the award, recognizing her involvement with and contribution to the section and to the association, during the association's annual meeting Nov. 16 to 20 in Atlanta, Ga. Over the years Pang has served on the association's executive committee in a number of roles, been involved in fundraising efforts, planned conferences and student mentoring programs and organized numerous workshops, symposia and roundtables.

COMPILED BY AILSA FERGUSON

# Research communicators strike gold in competition

BY AILSA FERGUSON

U of T's office of the vicepresident (research) hit the jackpot in the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's District II Accolades awards program, winning five awards for its publications and website.

Winning gold was
Excellence, Innovation,
Leadership: Research at the
University of Toronto, the
office's annual report, in the
visual design and print
(multiple page publication)
category. The report also
won silver for annual or
institutional reports. Edge,
the office's research magazine,
brought home silver in the
newsletters (four colour)

category and bronze for staff writing. Experience Research, the website launched in 2008 by the office of the vicepresident (research), won a silver medal for website (publication/special purpose).

"We're thrilled with these honours and thankful to the CASE organization," said **Professor Paul Young**, vicepresident (research). "The awards recognize the talent of our communications team (Anjali Baichwal, Paul Fraumeni, Jenny Hall and Lucia Mariani-Vena) and are a good indication that our strategy of enhancing the ways we tell the U of T research story is

working."
The *U of T Magazine* garnered

silver for photography (black and white) for **Liam Sharp's** portrait of Samantha Nutt on the cover of the autumn 2007 issue and bronze for colour photography for **Christopher Wahl's** portrait of Colin Russell on the contents page of the summer 2008 issue. Honour-able mention was also given to the *U of T Magazine* for best article for The Schools We Want, written by the magazine's editor, **Scott Anderson**.

The awards, celebrating excellence and creativity in alumni relations, communications and philanthropy, will be presented at an awards gala March 23 during the CASE District II annual meeting in Baltimore, Md.

# Shoot to win — it's photo contest time

BY ELAINE SMITH

Amateur photographers, take note: the Bulletin and the eBulletin will be holding their second annual photo

competition from Jan. 28 to March 9.

The contest is being held in conjunction with U of T's upcoming Celebration of the Arts, March 19 to April 3. The winning photos will appear in the March 24 issue of the Bulletin and in issues of the twice-weekly eBulletin beginning March 24.

Amateur photographers are invited to submit photographs to the Bulletin in one of five categories:

- 1. Flora and fauna (including pets)
- 2. Campus
- 3. Travel
- 4. People
- 5. Cellphone photos

The Bulletin's professional design team will judge the entries. Winners will be chosen for each category

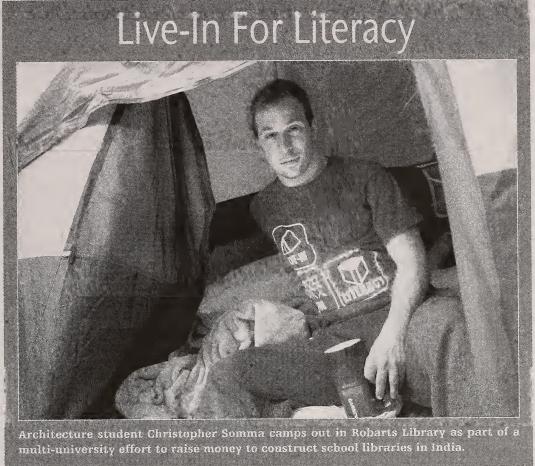
and one of the five winning photos will be awarded the grand prize. The grand prize winner will have the opportunity to showcase a selection of their photos on the back page of the Bulletin.

No more than two entries per category may be submitted by any individual. Entries should be submitted by e-mail to bulletin.photos@ utoronto.ca. All entrants will be asked to sign a photo release form allowing use of the photos in the Bulletin, eBulletin and other university websites or publications.

Entries should include:

- 1. Photographer's name and university contact information
- 2. Identification of the subject(s)
- 3. A brief description of the work

Take this opportunity to show your skill to your colleagues and to share your talents with the U of T community.



# Obama-mania at U of T

BY ANJUM NAYYAR AND ELAINE SMITH

King's College Circle

will never be mistaken for Washington, D.C.'s National Mall, but the interest in the inauguration of U.S. president Barack Obama was almost as keen at the University of Toronto as south of the border.

Across all three U of T campuses, students, faculty and staff gathered around large-screen TVs Jan. 20 to view the events at the U.S. Capitol and soak in a bit of history.

"It's such a historic event and a great celebration," said Deborah Simon-Edwards, director of operations for the Division of University Advancement (DUA), who provided the impetus for festivities at J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House. "To see a man of colour rise to such a position in the United States is just beyond words. As a black person myself, it gives great hope that anything is possible.'

DUA's event planning staff festooned the lobby with red, white and blue balloons and streamers and a cake that read Yes We Can. Staff packed the area to watch events unfold.

"We decided to make it into a big deal," said Rivi Frankle, DUA's assistant vice-president. "We wanted to make it fun and decorate the room. This is such an amazing day for everyone and it's such a great opportunity to bring the staff together and share it."

Big screens at the Faculty of Law, the Rotman School of Management and Sidney

The Nona Macdonald Visitors Centre, Trinity College's Buttery, the School of Continuing Studies and the Governing Council chamber also opened their doors to

"To see a man of

colour rise to

in the United

States is just

beyond words."

DEBORAH SIMON-

**EDWARDS** 

such a position

those interested in marking the seismic shift in U.S. government with others. U of T Mississauga offered formal viewing spots at three locations across campus and the U of T Scarborough broadcast the inauguration on the screens in the student

centre. The Faculty of Medicine, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of U of T and Inspiring You Politically jointly sponsored an Inauguration Day event at nearby U of T Schools. Attendees were able to watch the events unfold and meet prominent black Canadian icons, such as former lieutenant-governer Lincoln Alexander.

At Hart House, dozens of students watched the historic moment from the East Common Room, cheering as Obama was introduced as the 44th president of the United States. Red, blue and white streamers lined the walls of the packed room.

"We did a U.S. election night event and we were really interested in having an opportunity in watching the election night results with a stronger sense of community," said program adviser Jenifer Newcombe. "So once Obama won, we thought it would be a great opportunity to watch the inauguration as a group once again. We had a lot of interest from staff and

> students for this opportunity to experience history in the making." "It's something you want to be able to tell your kids, where you were when it was happening,"

said Abdiwali

Gore, a second-year cognitive science student. "It's the first black president and a historic moment."

At Simcoe Hall, where about 50 people viewed the ceremony on a big screen, others echoed his sentiment

"This is my Neil Armstrong [first man to walk on the moon] experience," said enrolment officer Andy Chien. "It's a comparison, a big event for my generation."

Staff member Malcolm Cole, who was born in Sierra Leone, expressed cautious optimism.

"His words were very inspiring today," Cole said. "An important thing is that he believes the goals he set for himself, even before the economy took such a negative turn, are things he thinks he can still achieve.

"His being elected was an indicator of change, but more important, an opportunity to foster change." (See related commentary, page 10.)

# Ross joins Faculty of Information

"The Faculty

of Information

had what I was

seeking in my

next challenge."

DEAN

**SEAMUS ROSS** 

BY KATHLEEN O'BRIEN

The Faculty of **Information** welcomes Professor Seamus Ross as its eighth dean, for a seven-year term. He

commenced his term Jan.

Ross' areas of research include preserving cultural heritage and scientific digital objects, humanities informatics and the application of

information technology to libraries, archives and museums. "The Faculty of

Information had what I was seeking in my next challenge -- contributing to research and teaching in a highly relevant field given society's reliance on information consumption; a young faculty offering fresh ideas and insights; and graduate students eager to contribute to society," Ross said.

His top priorities include increasing research initiatives and grants, expanding facilities and space and establishing an undergraduate program. Ross also hopes to build upon the faculty's long-standing

> commitment to students by hiring more faculty members to offer an even broader range of learning opportunities.

Ross is the founding director of the Humanities Advanced rechnology and Infor-

mation Institute (HATII) at the University of Glasgow. Under his leadership, HATII conducted innovative research into the use of information and communication technology within the humanities, archives, libraries and museums and promoted collaborative IT-based research within the arts and humanities. From 2004 until the end of 2008, Ross was also the associate director of the United Kingdom's Digital Curation Centre.

Smith Hall also drew crowds.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION Janet Grant jgrant@marsdd.com

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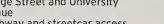
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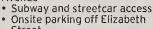


For more events visit www.marsdd.com/events

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# Academic calendar changes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 Other changes include:

- · a fall break of two days, appended to a weekend when possible
- · a pre-exam study period of two days in fall term, appended to a weekend where possible
- · a pre-exam study period of two days in winter term, appended to a weekend where possible

Starting in summer 2010, the summer session will also have the same number of instruction weeks as the fall/winter session. The F and S terms in the summer session will each be six weeks and Y courses in the summer session will have two six-week terms.

Glenn Loney, assistant dean, faculty registrar and secretary at the Faculty of Arts and Science, said the impetus for this set of changes came from the faculty's curriculum review and renewal project. It's a response to concerns students have expressed for a number of years. Various departments also expressed an interest in using the interval between the fall/ winter and summer sessions for brief but intensive curriclum modules such as field courses.

From the student's point of view, the biggest changes are the introduction of a two-day fall break and a two-day

December study period that parallel the breaks in second term, plus a commitment to end the fall/winter session by the end of April. Consequently, the April study week has been reduced to a two-day study break.

"From the instructor's point of the view, these changes have meant moving from a 13-week instructional term to a 12-week one," Loney said, "The students still will have the same number of weeks to learn the material, just that some of it will be spent learning outside the classroom."

The goal is to improve the student academic experience.

"For all students, the shortening of the April study break means that their course material will be fresher in their minds when they come to their April final exams," said Loney. "But most of all,

students get to finish school and start their summer jobs May 1 like students from other universities with whom they are competing for those jobs."

At UTM, with the exception of the two-day fall break in November, the calendar will follow St. George's lead but will have its break at the end of the terms.

"In the 13-week session there simply wasn't time for a break between the last day of classes and the beginning of exams," said Diane Crocker, registrar and director of enrolment. "The students are really very, very happy and very supportive of it."

She said the changes will allow students to be better prepared for their exams by having more time to meet with professors to review material and meet in study groups.

# New mail system

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 by following the instructions provided. E-mail that is currently on the UTORmail server will automatically get moved over to UTORexchange service once users press the migrate button.

BlackBerry users will also be affected. "You'll have to reconfigure your BlackBerry on your provider's BIS website after you move your e-mail over to the new system," said Eden.

By the end of the February, it's expected that CNS will also have moved UTORschedule calendar events to UTORexchange. After this date, users will only be able to access their calendars using the new system.

Visit: http://exchange. utoronto.ca/faq.html.

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# Science journalist embedded among U of T astronomers

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

Have vou ever looked out into the night sky at the moon and wondered what else was out there? Well-known science journalist Ivan Semeniuk, who has joined U of T's new Dunlap Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics as a science journalist-inresidence, looks for answers to this question every chance he gets. He says he often experiences an emotional response to the night sky filled with the light of the sinking crescent moon.

"It appears that what we are as humans is the universe looking at itself. We are pieces of the universe and we're regarding the universe and astronomers are enacting this everyday," said Semeniuk who is the institute's first science journalist-in-residence (http://di.utoronto.ca/journalist/index.html).

"Given astronomy's central role in the history of science, it's worth wondering whether the intellectual pursuit that has led us to our modern concept of the universe began with a tug on the heartstrings before it got to the brainstrings," he said in a blog he is writing during his stay at U of T.

For the next 18 months Semeniuk will document the latest frontiers of cosmic research for the U of T community and others, using podcasts, blogs and online video segments. The goal is to help expose the ideas and lives of professional astronomers to an international web audience. His tenure comes at a time when the astronomy community is celebrating the International Year of Astronomy (IYA) 2009, a worldwide celebration of the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first use of the telescope and the contributions that the field of astronomy has made to our understanding since that time.

Semeniuk has been U.S. bureau chief at New Scientist magazine since 2005. His experience includes 12 seasons as a columnist, tenure as fulltime producer with the awardwinning daily science magazine show Daily Planet on Discovery Channel Canada and work on the staff at the Ontario Science Centre for 13 years, where he developed exhibits and science programs. Semeniuk will bring his skilled producing background to weekly half-hour podcasts that aim to expose unique stories.

"The alignment of the beginning of the Dunlap

Institute and the IYA argued for an extraordinary effort in public outreach," said Professor Peter Martin, interim director of the institute and chair of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics. "Our goal during the International Year of Astronomy and beyond is to reach that vast majority of the population for whom the science of astronomy might not appear to enter daily life and to remind them about our cosmic connections. Having a journalist-in-residence can help us understand what the general public would like to know, as distinguished from what we think they should know about our latest research and discoveries."

"The chance to be in residence at a major astronomy department at a major institution is really appealing to me because as a journalist no matter how hard you try you're isolated from the people you report on," Semeniuk said. "The things that interest me are what motivates researchers to do what they do and this is my chance to be closer to these people and report on them in a very authentic way."

Visit Semeniuk's blog at: http://www.di.utoronto.ca/journalist/myblog/.



The Festival of Original Theatre will showcase fight choreography, as demonstrated here by PhD students Christopher Jackman (top) and Justin Blum.

# Festival of Original Theatre gets bloody

BY MICHELLE MACARTHUR

While violence may not be the first thing that comes to mind when characterizing the music of Jacques Brel, an upcoming performance at the Graduate Centre for Study of Drama is aiming to uncover the darker side of the famed Belgian singer's oeuvre.

"Let's Talk of Something Else": Violence and Death in the Music of Jacques Brel is one of several performances that will be featured during the centre's 15th annual Festival of Original Theatre (FOOT) at the end of the month. Using song, movement and dance to explore the varied perspectives on violence and death in Brel's music, the ensemble piece presents an original take on this year's festival theme, Exquisite Corpses, Bloody Bodies: Murder, Myth and the Representation of Violence on Stage and Screen.

"Having come of age during World War II, it's unsurprising that Brel characterizes violence and death as being particularly absurd," said **Christopher Jackman**, director of the piece and a PhD student at the centre. "Moreover, he tackles these issues in his characteristically poetic style."

It is FOOT's history of showcasing boundary-pushing artistic and scholarly work that led **Justin Blum** and his fellow artistic director and doctoral student in drama **Amanda Lockitch** to choose violence as this year's theme.

Both organizers' research is also focused on the topic: Blum's thesis is on Jack the Ripper in melodrama, while Lockitch's examines modern interpretations of the Medea story. Violence in its many forms pervades the history of theatre and film, Blum said.

"[I]f violence isn't universal in filmic and theatrical cultures throughout the past and present, it's darn near close. I suspect this has to do with the fact that seeing the body violated, harmed and even destroyed helps us to understand the borders and boundaries of our own personhood, even as it very often establishes an empathetic connection to others."

The organizers' interest in artistic representations of violence is shared by many, as is evidenced by FOOT's program. Scholars and artists from across North America are coming to present papers and perform. Some highlights of the three-day event include a behind-the-scenes showcase of fight choreography and special effects work; a keynote panel on the critically acclaimed 2008 play Palace of the End featuring playwright Judith Thompson, former Canadian Stage Company artistic director David Storch and actress Arsinée Khanjian; as well as panels and original performances on a wide variety of topics relating to the theme.

"We actually had to convince some people that yes, in fact, as long as it's treated in a thoughtful and responsible manner, we're perfectly happy with presentations that might make some people uncomfortable," said Blum. "Because, well, violence should make people uncomfortable shouldn't it?"

The 2009 Festival of Original Theatre runs Jan. 29 through Jan. 31. For more information, including a complete schedule of events, visit www. graddrama.utoronto.ca.

# Program a step up for students

BY TAMMY THORNE

### The HSBC Steps to

University Program, a program geared to high school students who might not otherwise consider a post-secondary education, is proving to be an overwhelming success.

The program, administered by U of T's Transitional Year Program in partnership with the Toronto District School Board, allows Grade 11 and 12 students from 10 Toronto high chools and from the Regent Park community to take part in an introductory U of T sociology course and to have full access to U of T's outstanding library system. But, perhaps most enticing of all, students earn two high school credits and a credit towards a future university

The program makes postsecondary education possible for secondary school students who might not normally attend university as a result of their economic, racial or ethnic background, personal circumstances, health or family issues. Since 2001 more than 200 Steps graduates have pursued undergraduate studies at U of T and many more have enrolled in other post-secondary institutions. A 2006 study showed almost 60 per cent of Steps graduates continue to post-secondary education; this exceeds the percentage of students in Ontario who pursue higher education.

Renatta Austin is one of that 60 per cent. The 22-year-old Grenadian immigrant is completing a double major in criminology and political science at U of T. She is also this year's recipient of the Bronfman Gold Award, Woodsworth College's most prestigious scholarship. Austin said the HSBC Steps to University Program opened up doors for her

"As I look back on my undergraduate experience at U of T and look forward to my future in law school, I know that my life would have been very different if I had not been a part of the Steps program," she said. "I certainly would

not have had the confidence to pursue a degree at U of T and I very well may have given up on becoming a lawyer."

Grade 12 student **Samir Hossain**, a current participant, provides additional proof of the program's success. Hossain plans to start his university career next year—and he hopes to be accepted U of T, where he is already a member of the Hart House Chess Club.

Hossain said the HSBC
Steps to University program is preparing him in a number of

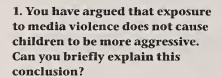
"I'd rather know what I will be faced with and now I feel like I have a complete picture of the university experience," he said. "It is also greatly improving my listening skills. In university lectures you really have to pay attention. It's not like high school."

The program has received nearly \$700,000 from HSBC Bank Canada since its start in 1992. A recent donation of \$300,000 will allow the program to continue until 2011.



## Johnathan Freedman, Deputy Provost

Professor Emeritus Jonathan Freedman is a renowned social psychologist and former chair of the Department of Psychology

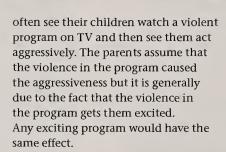


The systematic research does not provide convincing evidence that exposure to violent media makes children or anyone else more aggressive. There have been quite a few studies; an occasional one shows some effect but most of them do not. Moreover, the better studies, with better measures typically show no effect of media violence on aggression. This is true for TV, movies and especially for video games. In addition, in the real world starting in about 1990, we had lots of violent television and movies, more and more violent content in rap music and to that was added violent video games that became increasingly popular. Yet rather than see an increase in violent crime, both the U.S. and Canada saw a dramatic decrease in violent crime so that the rate is now below what it was before television was available. Our big cities, particularly in the United States, have lower rates of murder than they have had for many decades. This

decrease does not prove that violent media have no effect, but it certainly is an argument against such an effect.

# 2. Why do you think there is this commonly held belief that media violence does make children more violent?

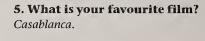
People believe that violent media make kids aggressive for several reasons. First, it seems obvious - kids imitate what they see, so they should naturally imitate the violence. And they do imitate it in their play. Many years ago, kids probably played at shooting arrows or fighting with swords; then they played at cops and robbers; and more recently they play imitating martial arts, because there is a lot of that in the media. So yes, they imitate, but it turns out that they do not become more aggressive — just the type of aggressiveness and the type of play are affected. Second, it is true that kids who prefer violent media tend to be more aggressive than those who prefer less violent media. This is not because the media makes them more aggressive, but rather due to their personalities — they are somewhat more aggressive people. Third, parents



# 3. What did you like most about working on the Scarborough campus during your time there as acting vice-principal (academic) and dean, and then as acting vice-president and principal?

It is a beautiful campus with wonderful people. Also, it is much smaller than St. George so that I had a chance to enjoy a more compact, more personal university. As I told the students and parents at the beginning of the year, the students at Scarborough get a University of Toronto education, with all the high standards and great facilities of a huge university, and they get to do it on a lovely campus that is almost like being in the country.

**4. What is your favourite television show?** The Fifth Estate.



6. What kind of music do you listen to when you want to relax? Jazz.

## 7. What are you reading right now?

Diary of a Bad Year by J. M. Coetzee, but I have to admit it is going slowly. In between serious books, I read mysteries and action stories — Henkell Manning is great and I just discovered Peter Temple.

**8. One change you'd like to see on campus?** I wish we had enough faculty so that every undergraduate had a faculty adviser or mentor for their whole time here.

**9. Describe one personal item you have in your office?** Lots of photos of my family.

**10. Whom do you admire most (besides family members)?** Nelson Mandela.

COMPILED BY TAMMY THORNE

# Athletic Centre offers members new equipment



Shannon Smith, assistant facility manager (pools)

BY VALERIE IANCOVICH

### The Athletic Centre's

strength and conditioning centre celebrated its grand reopening Jan. 21, boasting a range of new equipment and an expanded, more welcoming environment for students and members.

Professor **Cheryl Misak**, interim provost and vice-president, and Professor **Jill Matus**, vice-provost

(students), joined Dean **Bruce Kidd** 

and the Physical Education Undergraduate Association executive for the ribboncutting.

"The demand for access to

the strength and conditioning centre is always high," said Athletic Centre program manager **Melissa Krist**. "The renovated space has allowed us to meet that demand and give students the best possible recreation and training facility that we can."

The new space, made possible by a \$175,000 grant from U of T's Student Experience Fund, features a redesigned

### www.physical.utoronto.ca

layout with lighter weights at the front of the room and heavier weights at the back of the space, creating a more welcoming atmosphere for beginners.

The state-of-the-art equipment, intended to inspire everyone from newcomers to seasoned lifters, includes:

- Seven user-friendly and easily adjustable Atlantis<sup>®</sup> strength circuit machines, five of which are wheelchair accessible
- Three Schwinn® warm-up bikes
- Sci Fit Pro® arm cycle, accessible to all from a seated position
- Five additional Atlantis® strength machines for the back and legs
- Four sets of York® lightweight dumbbells, featuring raised lettering for individuals

- with visual impairments, and starting at 3 lbs. for beginner users
- Three additional Olympic weightlifting platforms with accompanying regular and lightweight bars and plates
- BOSU® balance trainers
- Reebok® medicine balls from 2 lbs. to 20 lbs.
- Precor® stretch trainer.

  The Athletic Centre offers regular strength circuit orientations, BOSU® and Olympic weightlifting instruction classes and Olympic weightlifting personal training. For more information, visit www.

**physical.utoronto.ca** and click on the Athletic Centre link.

CAZ ZYVATKAUSKAS

# Oceanographer hopes to make waves with research

BY DAN FALK

Have you ever poured coffee into a mug, added some milk, given it a good stir and then watched the two liquids merge as one? Now imagine the coffee cup enlarged by a few thousand times and you'll get an idea of what Professor Mathew Wells investigates for a living.

Wells teaches in the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences at U of T Scarborough. He calls himself a physical oceanographer, although he admits that it "sounds odd to talk about oceanography" when

your subject is a lake — even

one as large as Lake Ontario.

how it flows and how other

But Wells' passion for water —

things move and disperse within it — goes far beyond our local Great Lake. He's been near water, and inspired by water, virtually all his life. Born in Tasmania, Wells worked and studied in Australia before taking a university position in the Netherlands and then at Yale. The geophysicist moved to Toronto and his current job at U of T Scarborough in 2006.

"I've always loved the outdoors, so when I went on to do graduate studies, I was really keen to not be stuck in a lab," he said. He now specializes in making mathematical models of how the water in lakes and oceans mixes and how other liquids disperse within it. He conducts blackboard calculations — along computer simulations — along



UTSC oceanographer Matthew Wells spends time in the lab but would rather be on the water.

with a healthy dose of field work.

Wells was out on Lake Ontario with graduate students this past fall, measuring the water temperature at different depths from their instrument-laden boat. They found, among other things, that the temperature remains at a fairly steady 17 C down to a depth of 30 metres and then drops off sharply, down to a frigid 4 C.

But getting that data wasn't as easy as it sounds. "It was really quite choppy," he said. Wells is used to rough water by now — he once sailed from Australia to Antarctica — but his students had to adapt; most

of them had never been on the lake before. Just keeping one's balance is hard enough, let alone doing a scientific experiment amid the waves. "It's hard to read a laptop when the deck is moving," he noted.

His recent project involved water not far from campus — Frenchman's Bay, near Pickering. The city has been looking at strategies to improve the bay's water quality and Wells became interested in helping to tackle the challenge, choosing to conduct research there because it is a good site to study general processes with potentially relevant applications for the future.

"The bay could be a really beautiful asset to the city," he said, if the water was cleaner. But at the moment, the bay is thick with algae, fertilizer and natural sediment and it's not unusual to see dead fish floating on the surface.

Another issue that Wells is currently tackling has worldwide implications: the problem of invasive species. The problem is of particular concern in the Great Lakes, where tiny zebra mussels may be the most famous invader. Wells wants to know exactly how these invasive species get distributed — a problem that demands both mathematical modelling and hands-on field work. He's currently collaborating with a biologist from Fisheries and Oceans Canada in an attempt to see just what happens to ballast water when it's released.

As important and practical as this line of research is, Wells admits he's drawn to it for another reason, too — and one can see a hint of it in his eye-catching photos and demonstrations of different coloured liquids mixing in small-scale laboratory experiments.

"It's also very beautiful," he said.

# 'Buying locally' strategy questioned

BY GEOFF THOMAS

In 2006 some cafeterias on U of T's St. George campus began serving meals made from ingredients grown mostly in Ontario — an initiative undertaken with Local Food Plus, an organization that promotes local farmers and campaigns to reduce Canada's carbon footprint. But at U of T Mississauga, no such food partnership exists — and that may not be a bad thing, according to Professor Pierre Desrochers of geography.

As he argues in a recent policy paper (Yes, We Have No Bananas: A Critique of the 'Food Miles' Perspective), a New Zealand apple eaten in Spiegel Hall has more "food miles" (distance food has travelled from production to consumption) on it than the indigenous McIntosh but its production may have resulted in fewer greenhouse gases. New Zealand apples, he explained, are grown during our winter months and do not need to spend long periods of time in cold storage facilities.

Desrochers' paper challenges the recent popularity of movements like the 100-mile diet and has made him a virtual pariah to the antiagri business brigade. "The people who protest my paper circle together like musk oxen. They're reluctant to debate or consider the data. They're angry at corporations but feel powerless to effect change. So they transpose their efforts to something they can relate to: food purchases."

According to Desrochers, buying locally grown but economically uncompetitive products almost never reduces greenhouse gases. In the U.S., more than 80 per cent of food-related energy consumption comes from food production, while the transportation segment accounts for less than 10 per cent. Western European consumers would actually reduce their greenhouse gas emissions if they bought milk solids or apples from highly efficient New Zealand producers rather than from highly subsidized and much less efficient local producers.

"Long distance food transportation by highly efficient diesel container ships represents only a tiny percentage of total energy expenditure in agricultural production," he said. "Cold storage or greenhouses have much more significant expenditures. North Americans somehow forget that we have seasons!"

Desrochers is not against local food production. He said it works in some places, especially in season. But there was a reason our ancestors shifted away from subsistence farming.

"Our modern food supply chain is a demonstrably superior alternative that has evolved through constant competition and ever more rigorous management efficiency."

Desrochers has no illusions of winning over the prevailing Local Food Plus faction that pronounces: Let's go the distance so our food won't have to.

"My brother is a Quebec politician who represents an agricultural riding. I don't know if I can ever convince him that not buying from local producers is the right thing to do!"

# U of T partners with ICES, will open site on campus

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

U of T will become a data access centre next fall for the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), one of only three in Ontario. ICES tracks the healthcare data of Ontario's 12 million residents and already has satellite sites running in Kingston and Ottawa.

ICES on Campus will be based at 155 College St. The objective for the site is to increase access for the conduct of relevant health services and policy research in Ontario while creating an important new resource for training graduate students for careers in health services and health policy research.

"Students currently using ICES data for their research must travel to the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre campus to carry out all of their analyses," said Dr. Jan Hux, ICES' chief operating officer. "Clearly it will be more convenient for them to access data locally on campus; however, our goal is that they will also have access to all of the added value resources that they would have at the Sunnybrook site."

U of T's ICES site will be different from the others because it is a consortium whose members are the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto; several teaching hospitals, such as Sunnybrook, Women's College, the Uni-versity Health Network, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, the Hospital for Sick Children, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and St. Michael's; and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP).

The nursing faculty will expand ICES' ability to conduct nursing research across a range of areas such as health human resources, organization of services healthcare teams, costing and quality work environments, while faculty and graduate students in the epidemiology and biostatics area will have increased access to statistical and programming resources. The link with OAHPP will provide new strengths in areas of disease surveillance.

The site will allow improved access to the database for researchers; support collaborative research activities; and increase the amount of health services research conducted in the province. The researchers will be able to access Ontario health data sets and population registries through secured and encrypted lines.

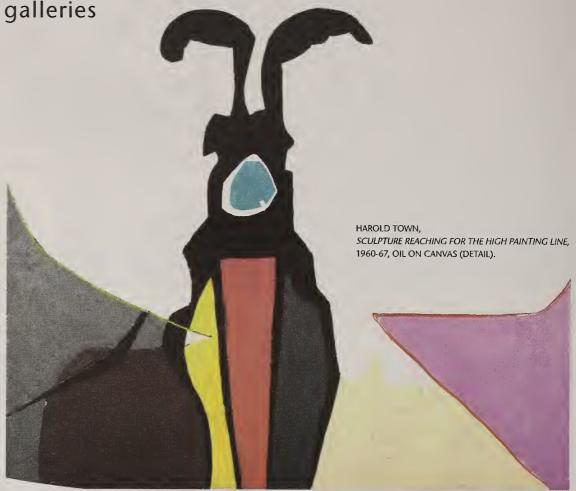
"We haven't had the capacity to train programmers and health services researchers, so ICES is hoping to increase the pool of people we're able to train by increasing the numbers of their sites," said Professor Louise Lemieux-Charles, chair of health policy, management and evaluation and the coordinator for the U of T project.

ICES is a non-profit and independent organization first established by U of T president **David Naylor**, who served as its first CEO. Since its inception in 1992, ICES has played a key role in providing unique scientific insights to help policy-makers, managers, planners, practitioners and other researchers shape the future direction of the Ontario healthcare system.

# THE ARTS IN

U of T's arts programs and galleries aim to make a splash at home and abroad

STORIES BY TAMMY THORNE



# Star curator teaches curatorial studies graduate course

Graduate students in U of T's curatorial studies program now have an opportunity to work directly with one of Canada's most important curators of contemporary art.

Barbara Fischer, curator of Hart House's Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, was recently chosen as curator for the Canadian Pavilion at the prestigious 2009 Venice Biennale. A curator since 1981, Fischer is also the winner of the 2008 Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Art.

Jennifer Rudder, a student in the program, has been an independent curator for 10 years but the opportunity to study with Fischer drew her back to school.

"I returned to U of T to study in the master's program as a break from the reality of the work of curators of contemporary art in Canada," she said. "My main reason for studying at U of T is Barbara Fischer. I've known Barbara throughout my working life, but to study with her is a dream come true."

Rudder added that the opportunity to curate and install a final exhibition is a major selling point of the

"This program is different in that it actually allows you to mount your thesis exhibition and has a budget for the exhibition. This is a very important first step for a novice curator. One learns so much in the production and presentation of an exhibition that you

can't just learn by working it out on paper."

**Shauna Thompson** is one of those aspiring novice curators. She too was drawn by the prominent professor and because the program is practical. "It seemed like the program was uniquely geared to help students make professional connections and become more integrated into the art community," she said.

"Working with Barbara is amazing. She's so incredibly knowledgeable and is able to speak about the discipline so naturally and with great insight. She's really opened up my thoughts on what it might mean to be a curator.'

Launched in September 2008, the curatorial studies program is part of the larger master of visual studies (MVS) program — unique in Canada. The MVS is an elite two-year professional program offering two fields of study: studio art practice and now, curatorial studies. Fischer credits Professors Marc Gottlieb and Lisa Steele with championing the new program and building a strong curriculum.

Fischer said that traditionally curators are seen as the caretakers of a collection.

"Some curators may be involved in the collecting activities of a museum and others might focus more on developing narratives and histories in the form of exhibitions," she said. "However, curators also experiment with the forms that exhibitions take and develop new models. A part of almost all curators' work is to give art a particular place, context, and make it available to a larger audience."

She believes the most important quality for a curator is a deep, engaged knowledge of and curiosity about what is happening in contemporary art something she hopes to get across to her students.

"The ability to develop critical judgments and informed decisions and to understand the context and reasons for one's convictions — that is what makes or breaks a curator in contemporary art."



Barnicke gallery curator Barbara Fischer (left) works closely with graduate students Jennifer Rudder (centre) and Shauna Thompson.

# New support for UTSC arts events

**Professor Michal Schonberg** started the first stand-alone undergraduate program in drama at the University of Toronto in 1973 at what was then called Scarborough College, and it has flourished ever since.

Today, UTSC's popular drama program is about to get a boost from the campus' new arts and events programming (AEP) office. AEP director **Lynn Tucker** said performing arts, which includes drama, is the likely the largest arts group on the Scarborough campus.

She explained how the office makes a difference. "Our office has all the contacts across the tri-campus and we make things a bit easier," she said. "Now, instead of professors having to organize their own events, we do all of that. If a professor has an idea, they meet with us and we flesh out the idea and help make it happen."

One professor with an idea is Schonberg. He is currently working along side **Jiri Havelka**, Snider artist-in-residence and director, on the drama program's yearly theatre production, *Stepping on Toes: To Dance or Not To Dance.* 

"The play has to do with an institution that doesn't really exist in Canada — ballroom dance. Young people who grew up in central Europe would take classes where you would learn the waltz or the foxtrot or whatever you like, depending on the class. It happened when you were 16 or 17 and it was often the first time you really encountered the opposite sex in a legitimate setting. So, not only were you taught how to dance, you were also introduced to the niceties of social contact," he said.

The 16 advanced performance undergraduate students are given a series of questions to answer and the play is born out of controlled improvisations. Schonberg said they have also been greatly enjoying the dance classes.

Schonberg grew up in the Czech Republic. "You know, Czechoslovakia was supposed to be classless at that time, but of course it wasn't, so in these classes you'd get people like me, in school, and other kids that were learning to be welders, for example. But it was expected of you to do it no matter what class you were from and so you learned politesse as well as polka," he said.



Professor Michal Schonberg (left), a drama professor at U of T Scarborough, is working with his advanced performance students on their annual theatre production.

He said he feels the same dynamic relationships can be achieved and expressed through this production because of the diverse nature of Scarborough campus. "Scarborough is, of course, the college with a great cross-cultural student body," he said.

Stepping on Toes: To Dance or Not To Dance will open March 12 in the newly renovated 110-seat Leigha Lee Browne Theatre, which will have its official reopening as part of the university's upcoming Celebration of the Arts.

Other upcoming events the AEP office is working on include:
• Music Performance Lecture Series, featuring Heather Bambrick (Feb. 6), Phil Nimmons and David Braid (March 13), Peter Stoll

Trio (March 20)
• TLKY Buddhist Lecture Series, featuring Professor Jeffrey Hopkins (Feb. 27) and Film Series (March 13 to 27)

• Literary Series, featuring Julie Cruikshank (March 5)

• Student Initiative events, featuring a Movie Matinee Series (throughout the term) and the Music Ambassador's Cafe Jazz (April 2 — in collaboration with the Jazz Ensemble)

For the full calendar of events go to:

www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~aep/

# ArtsZone launches new website

Virtual hub to focus on depth and breadth of campus arts experience

**U of T's central** arts hub is putting a fresh face forward with the launch of its new website.

ArtsZone interim director **Vanessa Laufer** said the arts and culture website of a leading public university like the University of Toronto should be an inspiration to the U of T community but also to the world at large.

"As U of T can be a big place, presenting our face on a small screen can help reveal our personality and identity. The new ArtsZone website reflects the calibre and range of arts activity studied and practised here," Laufer said. "We hope www.arts.utoronto.ca will act as a vibrant hub where people inside and outside U of T can learn about what we offer, share information and become engaged.

"The university's three campuses have such a broad, rich range of arts activities. Whether it's our academic programs, our galleries, our performances and screenings or myriad student groups, there are so many ways to become engaged in the arts here," Laufer added.

At **www.arts.utoronto.ca** visitors will find dynamic and fresh content paired with meaningful information in an intuitive and user-friendly format.

One example of fresh content is the front page Did You Know? section, which highlights hidden talent in the U of T community. The inaugural Did You Know? profile is drummer and geography PhD candidate **Brian Hracs**. His

research provides a response to the lack of empirical studies addressing the employment experiences of musicians in the city.

"Broadly, I am looking at the working lives of musicians in Toronto and the spatial dynamics of those careers," said Hracs. "The industry is changing. Now, because of technology and the fragmentation of the industry across space, places like Toronto and other emerging centres of production are on the map and more viable in terms of a destination for musicians from other part of Canada.

"In general I would say Toronto is a great attractor but not the best supporter or retainer of musical talent," he said. In other words, Toronto may be a great place to get gigs but a crowded and competitive industry cluster, along with the high cost of living, may mean that Toronto is not the ideal place for musicians to live and work.

By highlighting interdisciplinary scholars like Hracs, ArtsZone's new website represents a forward-thinking approach that recognizes contributions to the arts on campus from unexpected and unconventional sources.

And, as Hracs pointed out, "Music is something that people experience in their everyday lives."

The website will also eventually feature an interactive forum for arts discussion for students.

# Academic art arsenal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Christoph Migone, curator of the Blackwood Gallery

the Blackwood recently hired new curators, **Matthew Brower** and **Christof Migone**, respectively, to help manage their collections, exhibitions and programming.

Brower is cross-appointed as a lecturer in museum studies and comes from York University where he taught and was codirector of two galleries. He took advantage of his cross-appointment immediately by bringing his class into the gallery.

"It was a course on contemporary theories of art culture, which we actually taught in the art centre drawing on pieces from the collection," he said. "The students were really happy to be able to see the art and the backspace of the gallery." UTAC is home to three permanent collections, including the Lillian Malcove collection, bequeathed in 1982 from the estate of a New York psychoanalyst with a passion for collecting art. The collection ranges from the ancient to the modern and is best known for its impressive nucleus of medieval and Byzantine objects, which creates an academic synergy with U of T's internationally recognized medieval studies program.

In an exhibition opening today, Brower curates The Malcove Vision to deliver insight into the collecting passion of Lillian Malcove.

"In this show we will draw on some of the other more contemporary and South Asian aspects of the collection and reveal how broad the collection is," he said. "One of the exciting things about the position is the ability to engage with the intellectual life of the campus."

The Blackwood Gallery has a different mandate: to focus on contemporary works. Migone, who taught part-time at Concordia University, was hired as the new director and curator of the Blackwood this past summer.

Migone is a curator who was looking for an academic home base and now teaches curatorial practice to third- and fourthyear undergraduates and taught a sound art class last fall.

"I really felt the need to anchor and invest myself in one place, where I can really put my energy behind one institution and have the opportunity to shape its future," he said.

Migone also found the teaching aspect of the position appealing. "There is great potential synergy between what art and art history students learn in the classroom and what they can learn by participating in the activities of the gallery."

He said part of the gallery's mandate is to disturb preconceptions, foster discussion and engage the intellect as well as the senses. The gallery's slogan — We'll put chest on your hair — Migone said humorously encapsulates the spirit of the Blackwood by jarring expectations and requiring a second look.

(www.utm.utoronto.ca/services/

gallery/index2.html).



U of T Art Centre curator Matthew

# Dispatch from the inauguration: One U of T staffer journeys to watch history unfold in Washington

BY LIAM MITCHELL

As I arrive at the National Mall, I am greeted by a dozen volunteers who welcome me warmly. "Thank you for coming," says one. If I wasn't standing in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial, I might mistake this experience for a trip to Wal-Mart.

After a last minute decision, I have just arrived in Washington D.C., where I've been drawn to watch history unfold. I am here to see Barack Obama be sworn in as the 44th president of the United States. The mood of those assembling is ecstatic; even a little giddy. Handshakes and high-fives abound. I head east along the Mall before finding a comfortable spot at the northwest corner of the Washington Monument (which is some two kilometres from the Capitol). To my left is the White House where a large white moving truck is parked in front of the south portico while marching bands

practise their manoeuvres on the Ellipse for the upcoming parade. I lack a direct view of the raised platform where the oath will be taken but a large screen allows me to see the ceremony.

The crowd is eager to show its enthusiastic support for the new administration. Appearances on the screen by Obama, Joe Biden or their wives elicit large cheers. Similarly, they are unwilling to let the outgoing administration depart without voicing their disapproval. Images of the outgoing president and vice-president are greeted with sustained boos. When the presidential helicopter, Marine One, later whisks overhead with George W. Bush onboard, many salute the former commander-in-chief with a single digit.

The collective sense of anticipation peaks as Chief Justice John Roberts calls upon the president-elect to



take the oath of office. Despite confusion over the composition of the oath, those of us gathered on the Mall erupt in hoots and chants of "O-BA-MA!" at its conclusion.

We all soon fall silent to hear the new President's inaugural address. His words are sombre as he defines the challenges faced by the United States. However, his calls for co-operation and resolve are greeted with unqualified cries of support.

Like many who gather in Washington on this day, I am drawn by the sense of history and the opportunity to be part of a landmark event that will define a generation. It's very rare to know in advance the time and place where history will be made. So I felt an obligation to be here to experience it first-hand.

This was more than a chance to see the first

African-American become president, although the power of this moment is profound. The stirring sense of optimism and hope that flows through the crowd makes it seem as though America itself could be reborn. Even for a war-weary nation in the midst of economic uncertainty, at this moment nothing seems unattainable or impossible. Yes We Can is no longer an election slogan but the new national mantra.

As the ceremony ends, those assembled slowly disperse and begin to wander the city. Rather than head in a particular direction, we give ourselves up to the natural flow of the crowd to soak up the spirit. The size of the throng and the diversity of its composition become a spectacle to behold in and of itself. As we move along the cordoned-off streets, we pass squads of army men and women who are

deployed across the city to reinforce the traditional law enforcement agencies. Security is tight and everpresent, but it does not overwhelm.

As the day turns to night and the new president and first lady dance their way through the 10 inaugural bails, I board a shuttle bus and return to the airport. It has been less than 12 hours since I arrived in Washington, but in that time I was given the chance to stand on the National Mall with two million other people and not simply watch history but be part of it.

Liam Mitchell is the manager of external relations for the Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry at the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering.

### BOOKS



The Year She Left, by Kerry Kelly (Darkstar Fiction; 256 pages; \$19.95). Stuart Lewis, 33, in love and content, wakes up one day to find his fiancée has left him. Perpetually underemployed and now homeless, Stuart moves onto his mother's couch. With few connections and no ambition, Stuart is forced to rethink the choices he has made. Set against the frigid backdrop of downtown Toronto, this book casts an eclectic bunch of directionless underachievers and unlikely heroes amid the buzz of late night binges and early corporate hustle. This is the story of what happened in the year she left.

Made Up of Arias, by Michelle Alfano (Blaurock Press; 115 pages; \$20). Lilla, Joey and Clara Pentangeli, their father Salvatore and their mercurial mother Seraphina live on Paradise Street behind a giant billboard, in a charmed world filled with operative heroines. Seraphina idolizes Maria Callas. Between bouts of housework, she re-enacts Violetta's death scene from La Traviata, dresses in a kimono like CioCioSan in Madama Butterfly and concocts outrageous tales for her three children. She also reveals one or two secrets from her past. At last real-life tragedy overtakes the house on Paradise Street.

Editing the Image: Strategies in the Production and Reception of the Visual, edited by Mark Cheetham, Elizabeth Legge and Catherine M.

Soussloff (U of T Press; 240 pages; \$50). Featuring contributors from a wide range of disciplines, this collection considers editing in the context of academic journals, art history texts, illustrated books, museum displays and exhibitions. It is an inclusive analysis of visual forms commonly associated with the editing process photography, film and video as well as some that are not intrinsically linked to editing - painting, sculpture and architecture. This collection also includes discussions of moving picture media and studio art by practitioners, giving the study a practical

The Finance Crisis and Rescue: What Went Wrong? Why? What Lessons Can Be Learned?, edited by Rotman School of Management; foreward by Roger Martin (Rotman/UTP Publishing; 160 pages; \$24.95). The 2008 global financial crisis affects everyone, but its root causes and
potential cures — knowledge
necessary in order to make
strong financial decisions
moving forward — are confusing to many. This compilation
of expert views from the
Rotman School of
Management navigates what
went wrong, why and the lessons that these events can
teach businesspeople, policymakers and interested
observers alike.

Writing Travel: The
Poetics and Politics of the
Modern Journey, edited by
John Zilcosky (U of T Press;
336 pages; \$60). Examining a
broad range of texts and travellers from across the world,
this collection of essays discusses canonical authors
such as Homer, Goethe and
Baudelaire alongside lesser
known writers such as
Theodor Herzl, Hans Erich
Nossack and William Gibson.
It draws connections between

travel and narrative and provides powerful insights into the relationship between travel and the spoken act of storytelling, as well as the more ambivalent act of story writing.

Early Modern Nationalism and Milton's England, edited by David Loewenstein

and Paul Stevens (U of T Press; 448 pages; \$80). Although the poet John Milton (1608-1674) was a politically active citizen and polemicist during the English Revolution, little has been written on Milton's concept of nationalism. The first book to examine major aspects of Milton's nationalism, it features 15 essays by leading international scholars who illuminate the significance of the nation as a powerful imaginative construct in his writing.

COMPILED BY AILSA FERGUSON

#### restaurant review

# Heavenly cuisine in Mississauga

BY SUE PRIOR

NIRVANA

★★★★ Very good ¢

Buddha described nirvana as the perfect peace of the state of mind that is free from craving, anger and other afflictive states — our craving was satisfied, any anger lifted and afflictive states went out the window at the restaurant of the same name in north Mississauga off Hurontario Street.

Our holiday lunch for the U of T Mississauga's office of Advancement was held at Nirvana, a north Indian restaurant — not to be confused with south Indian. For this Italian food critic it came as no surprise that the north and the south should be so diverse in flavours, textures and tastes.

It was not the usual sitdown buffet — the menu is a fixed three-course executive lunch. We picked either vegetarian and non-vegetarian and they brought steaming bowls of spicy, sweetly scented variations of both.

The appetizer was a spicy potato patty with three kinds of chutney; and the nonvegetarian appetizer was chicken tikka, again served with the three condiments. The main meal for vegetarians was dahl (lentils), two vegetables — cauliflower and potatoes (aloo gobi), a mix of vegetables, chick peas in a sauce and of course rice and nan, the delicious Indian bread. The non-vegetarian meal consisted of butter chicken — not my favourite Indian fare, but this was delicious. The dessert was a

vermicelli pudding where the main ingredient was cardamom.

The prices were modest — \$13.99 for the executive lunch. The atmosphere was not fast food but rich with dark wood furniture, copper chargers for the plates and a high-end feel without the high-end price. It is a quiet restaurant where the tables are far apart or it can be an intimate setting — whatever the diner prefers. So, if you feel like a little nirvana in Mississauga — this is the place to go.

LOCATION: 35 Brunel Ave., Mississauga PHONE: (905) 501-5500 PRICE PER PERSON: Varies ATMOSPHERE: Casual dining http://www.nirvana theflavoursofindia.com/ index.htm

#### Legend:

★ Bad (brown bag it)

大大 Fair (below average -will likely not go back)

大大大 Good (would consider dining there again)

大大大 Very good (will definitely go back)

大大大大 Extraordinary
(will be back as soon as possible)

Price symbols (generally appetizer, main course and dessert) per person, without tax, tip or wine/alcohol:

\$\mathcal{C}\$ = under \$15; \$ = \$15-\$30;
\$\$ = \$30-\$39; \$\$\$ = \$40-\$49;
\$\$\$\$ = \$50-plus

NOTE: *The Bulletin* does not subsidize reviewers' meals.

Do you have a favourite lunch spot near the university? Send us suggestions — or submit your own 400-word review to bulletin@utoronto.ca.

### letter to the editor

TO FORGO SALARY INCREASES SYMBOLIC OF LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE

I commend President David Naylor and senior administrators for volunteering to forgo their salary increases in 2009-10 (Salaries for senior administrators Frozen, eBulletin, Jan. 13).

Coming at a time of economic downturn and financial constraint, this move is both salutary and responsible. Compare this with the nerve of Merrill Lynch chief executive officer John Thain who suggested that he get a bonus of \$10

million after the company had to be bailed out by Bank of America in the wake of losing \$10 billion in 2008.

Cynics may say that this is largely a symbolic move and that senior administrators can well afford to forgo their pay increases. To me, this gesture is symbolic of leadership by example. In asking the university community to work collaboratively to contain expenditures, President Naylor has set an excellent example.

Thank you.
P.C. CHOO
GOVERNING COUNCIL

# He Said She Said

# At the good old history game

BY CAZ ZYVATKAUSKAS



British Army officer James Fitzgibbon (1780-1863) improved my childhood considerably. His old house located at the corner of Midland and Eglinton avenues was the source of many a ghost story. The intriguing and mysterious wooden building nestled in a tiny forest of overgrowth provided endless musing and outrageous imaginings — and that was before I learned that Fitzgibbon had been a hero in the War of 1812 and was the man responsible for actually listening to the appeals of a woman --Laura Secord — consequently helping to mobilize 400 Mohawk and Odawa allies in defeating the Americans. His ramshackle cabin was an appealing counterpoint to the rows of modern suburban brick structures.

The quaint old historic home is gone — replaced by a couple of cheap monster houses with no particular architectural attraction. The Fitzgibbon house remains only as a name on the City of Toronto's list of lost historic sites. Soon, I fear, to be added to this sadly very long list will be the shrine to this nation's favorite sport — Maple Leaf Gardens.

For about 10 years the Gardens has sat quietly waiting for reoccupation like a huge concrete castle whose occupants have left to do battle on some foreign territory. At one time the University of Toronto hosted a display of architectural concepts of possible uses for the building. The most inspiring was a giant community centre that maintained the skating surface and incorporated layers of multi-use space where former corporations once hosted the wealthiest fans. Since then the controlling interests have vacillated between how much needs to be done to transform the building into a grocery store or whether it should come down completely.

I have nothing against eggplants, tinned soup or bread wrapped in plastic, I just question whether destroying another historically significant structure to provide said items is worth the trade-off. Of course, sentiment cannot be the

guiding rule in every case of historical preservation or we would all be sleeping on wooden pallets and straw stuffed mattresses. However, for a city and nation so proud of its hockey heritage and lore, the loss of the Gardens seems a travesty.

Perhaps greater minds need to be consulted for possible solutions to the empty Gardens dilemma. Could not the university step in somehow? Could we not hold the biggest lectures ever in the stadium that once hosted the Beatles, Elvis and the famous home-grown wrestling hero Whipper Billy Watson? Could we not at the very least contribute some of our intellect to devise ways to utilize this notable space?

I am not suggesting for a minute that we redirect scarce resources towards saving a building that has no direct bearing on the life of our institution. Although my guess is that if you asked many of the local faculty and staff, many stories would emerge of memories and moments that would be considerably altered if the Gardens disappeared.

The grand old lady is still standing and her future is still alterable. I was inside her when she was alive with fans and heroes. I took my daughter to her first-ever hockey game there and the ticket collector asked her, "Is this your first game?" She nodded and the gentleman gave her the ticket intact and said, "Save this as a keepsake." It isn't just the paper ticket that is memorable but also the moment.

I never had the pleasure of going inside the Fitzgibbon house but I wish I had. And as much as I loathe seeing those monster homes where the historic building once stood I am more loath to think of a rubble pile or a grocery aisle where the Maple Leaf Gardens once stood.

Caz Zyvatkauskas is a U of T history student who doubles as designer of the Bulletin. She shares this space with Paul Fraumeni.

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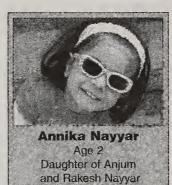
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  - 4. People
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Evelyn Sommers, Ph.D., Psychologist, provides psychotherapy and counselling for individuals and couples from age 17. Covered under U of T benefits. Yonge/Bloor. Visit www.ekslibris.ca; call 416-413-1098;

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#### **LECTURES**

The Afterwork of Painting. Wednesday, January 28

Matthew Brower, art curator, U of T Art Centre. U of T Art Centre, Art Lounge, Laidlaw Wing, University College. 4:30 p.m. U of T Art Centre

Transmembrane Receptors as Mediators Between Extracellular Matrix and Tissue Organization.

Monday, February 2

Prof. Dorothea Godt, cell and systems biology. 237 FitzGerald Building. 11:30 a.m. Dentistry

Inventing the Truth: Telling Stories About 'Real' People, Events and Places (Bloomsbury and Beyond).

Wednesday, February 4 Prof. Janice Kulyk Keefer, University of Guelph. Canadian Stories, Narrative Theories series. 262 North Building, U of T Mississauga. 4 p.m. Jackman Humanities Institute, English and Drama, UTM, and Historical Studies,

Telling Tales Out of the Family: On Publicly Sharing -- and Shaping — the Lives of (Your Closest) Others.

Thursday, February 5 Prof. Janice Kulyk Keefer, University of Guelph. Canadian Stories, Narrative Theories series. 100a Jackman Humanities Building, 170 St. George St. 4 to 6 p.m. Jackman Humanities Institute, English and Drama, UTM, and Historical Studies, UTM

**Genetic Dissection of Neural Circuits Controlling Energy** Homeostasis.

Thursday, February 5 Prof. Bradford Lowell, Harvard medical School; John K. and Mary E. Davidson lectureship and award. 3153 Medical Sciences Building. 4 p.m. Physiology

Levelling the Playing Field. Tuesday, February 10

Prof. Ron Deibert, political science, on Levelling the Playing Field for Citizen Intelligence; Prof. Alex Jadad, Centre for Global eHealth Innovation on Levelling the Playing Field for Optimal Health; Jesse Hirst, Internet specialist, researcher and broadcaster, moderator. 1210 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 4 p.m. Knowledge Media Design Institute

#### SEMINARS

**New Remote Sensing Tools for Great Ape Conservation: The** Case of Chimpanzees in Africa. Wednesday, January 28

Lilian Pintea, conservation science Africa programs, Jane Goodall Institute. East Common Room, Hart House, 4:10 p.m. Environment

**Environmental Toxicants:** New Approaches to Animal Studies in Research. Thursday, January 29 Prof. Warren Foster, McMaster University. 108 Health Sciences Building, 155 College St. 4:10 p.m.

**Breast Cancer and** 

Environment

A Novel Cell Eating Mechanism in Macrophages. Friday, January 30

Prof. Rene Harrison, biological sciences, U of T Scarborough. 432 Ramsay Wright Building. 2 p.m. Cell & Systems Biology

How to Become Illustre? Municipal Nobility and Neighbourhoods in Renaissance Rome. Friday, January 30

Eleonora Canepari, paleographer. 205 Northrop Frye Hall. 3:30 to 5 p.m. Reformation & Renaissance Studies

Air Pollution and Asthma. Thursday, February 5

Michelle North, PhD candidate, Institute of Medical Sciences. 108 Health Sciences Building, 155 College St. 4:10 p.m. Environment

Collecting Women in the Italian Wars: Portraits, Pornography and Politics 1494-1525. Friday, February 6

John Gagné, Concordia University. 205 Northrop Frye Hail. 3:30 to 5 p.m. Reformation & Renaissance Studies

**Rethinking Comparative** Constitutional Law.

Monday, February 9
Prof. Sujit Choudhry, law. 200 Larkin Building, 15 Devonshire Place. 3 to 5 p.m. Ethics

Integral Planning. Tuesday, February 10 Micahel Lem, BMO Nesbitt Burns. Council Chamber, South Building,

U of T Mississauga. 7:15 to 9 a.m. Commerce & Management Association, UTM and Office of Advancement, UTM

Putting Care on the Map: Exhibiting Research. Wednesday, February 11

Prof. Ardra Cole and Maura McIntyre, adjunct instructor, adult education and counselling psychology, OISE/UT. Suite 106, 222 College St. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Life Course & Aging

#### MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Exquisite Corpses, Bloody Bodies: Murder, Myth and the Representation of Violence on Stage and Screen. Friday, January 29 to Saturday, January 31

The 2009 Festival of Original Theatre conference and performance festival initiates an innovative exploration of violence throughout the history of theatre and film. Bringing together scholars and artists from across disciplines, FOOT 2009 promises an exciting and cutting-edge program. Daytime program and keynote panel are free; Thursday and Saturday performances are \$8, students and seniors \$5. Information and complete schedule:

www.graddrama.utoronto.ca.

#### MUSIC

FACULTY OF MUSIC EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING Thursdays at Noon. Thursday, January 29

Opera a Casa; Mia Bach and Andrea Grant, piano, and guests. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

Thursday, February 5

Music and poetry; Che Anne Loewen, piano, Eric Domville, speaker. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

Wind Symphony. Friday, January 30

Jeffrey Reynolds, conductor. MacMillan Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$14, students and seniors \$10.

Symphony Orchestra. Saturday, January 31

Alain Trudel, conductor. MacMillan Theatre. 7:30 p.m. \$18, students and seniors \$10.

Chamber Music Series. Monday, February 2

Miró Quartet. Walter Hall. 7:30 p.m. \$25, students and seniors \$15.

Faculty Artist Series. Friday, February 6

French chamber music; Jacques Israelievitch, violin, Teng Li, viola, Shauna Rolston, cello, and Henri-Paul Sicsic, piano. Walter Hall. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25, students and seniors \$15.

Discovery Series. Tuesday, February 10

Catherine Marchant, soprano; Mia Harris, mezzo; Patrick Jang, tenor; Giovanni Spanu, baritone; Stephen Ralls, piano. Walter Hall. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$18, students and seniors \$12.

Wednesday, February 11 Small jazz ensembles. 7:30 p.m. Walter Hall.

**HART HOUSE** Sunday Concert Series. Sunday, February 1

Lori Gemmell and Jennifer Swartz, harp duo. Great Hall, Hart House. 3 p.m.



### PLAYS & READINGS

Jerry Springer — The Opera. Wednesday to Friday, January 28 to January 31

Music by Richard Thomas; book and lyrics by Stewart Lee and Richard Thomas; directed by Richard Ouzounian, Canadian premiere, Hart House Theatre. Performances at 8 p.m. Tickets \$25, students and seniors \$15.

Attempts on Her Life. Wednesday to Saturday, January 28 to January 31 and Tuesday, to Saturday, February 3 to February 7

By Martin Crimp; directed by Michelle Newman. University College drama program presentation. Helen Gardiner Phelan Playhouse, 79A St. George St. Performances at 8 p.m. Tickets \$15, students and seniors \$10.

Bonjour, Là Bonjour. Friday and Saturday, January 30 and January 31 Tuesday to Saturday, February 3 to February 7

By Michel Tremblay, directed by Terry Tweed. Theatre Erindale production. Erindale Studio Theatre, U of T Mississauga. Performances at 7:30, Tuesday to Saturday; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; matinee, Saturday, Feb. 7, 2 p.m. Tickets \$9 to \$14. Box office: 905-569-4369; www.theatreerindale.com.

#### **FILMS**

ReelPolitik: Understanding the World Through Film. Thursday, February 5 to Saturday, February 7

A festival of films that address issues of global concern. Screenings are accompanied by in-depth introductions and panel discussions with experts from U of T and elsewhere. Vivian & David Campbell Conference Facility, Munk Centre for International Studies. Schedule and tickets:

http://www.utoronto.ca/mcis/reel/. Munk Centre for International Studies

Friday, February 6

Film screening of Amal; directed by Richie Mehta. Matthews Auditorium, Kaneff Centre, U of T Mississauga. 7:30 p.m. RSVP: http://alumni.utoronto. ca/amal; information at 905-569-4924. U of T Mississauga

### EXHIBITIONS

**DORIS McCARTHY GALLERY** U OF T SCARBOROUGH ImagiNation: New Cultural Topographies. To March 1

This exhibition features works by a diverse range of contemporary Canadian artists whose works express some of the complexities of contemporary Canadian identity. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday,

# REELPOLITIK

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD THROUGH FILM

The Munk Centre for International Studies presents its second annual festival featuring films on issues of global concern. Expert panel discussions follow each screening.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

6:00 PM War/Dance (Documentary, Uganda/USA, 2007) 105 min. Academy Award Nominee for 2008 Best Documentary Feature

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:00 PM Persepolis (Animation, France, 2007, subtitled) 95 min. Winner of the Best Foreign Language Film at the 2008 Golden Globes

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1:00 PM The Lugones Family: A Trip to the History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century (Documentary, Argentina, 2007, subtitled) 90 min.

6:00 PM Losers and Winners (Documentary, Germany, 2006, subtitled) 96 min. Winner of the Best International Feature Award at the 2007 HotDOCS

Tickets and program information at www.utoronto.ca/mcis/reel or 416-946-8901.



Institutional support: Canadian International Council / Conseil International du Canada; Cinema Studies Institute, University of Toronto; Centre for International Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health



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10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

### BLACKWOOD GALLERY U OF T MISSISSAUGA The Way I Are. To March 1

Works by Valerie Blass, Anthony Burnham, Robert Fones, Martin Golland, Jen Hutton, Kelly Jazvac, John Massey, Elizabeth McIntosh, Planningtorock and Tony Romano; curated by Katie Bethune-Leaman. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

#### **U OF T ART CENTRE** To March 14 Dry as Dust? 18th and 19th Century Art

This exhibition highlights academic and genre painting from the UC and U of T collections and shows that such works still have much to offer.

#### The Malcove Vision.

The range, breadth and underlying consistency of Lillian Malcove's esthetic vision is explored in this exhibition of rarely seen objects from the collection.

#### Figure, Form and Ground.

This exhibition highlights paintings and drawings from the University of Toronto and University College collections. Laidlaw Wing, University College. Hours; Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

#### **ERIC ARTHUR GALLERY** JOHN H. DANIELS FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE & **DESIGN**

#### Wes Jones: Works From El Segundo To April 18

The exhibition surveys design by the acclaimed practice of Jones, Partners: Architecture. Projects selected from the last decade explore future possibilities for single and multi-unit housing at a variety of scales, Included are models, drawings, renderings and spreads from the latest J,P:A monograph. Hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.

### THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY **Book Objects and Artist Books.** January 29 to May 1

The exhibition is about books being used as works of art in and of themselves. Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

E.J. PRATT LIBRARY VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

### COMMITTEES

### Director, Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics

A search committee has been established in the Faculty of Arts & Science to recommend a director of the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics. Members are: Professors David Klausner, vice-dean (interdisciplinary affairs) (chair); Peter Martin, interim director, Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics; Richard Bond, Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics; Roberto Abraham, astronomy and astrophysics; Barbara Sherwood Lollar, geology; and Richard Peltier, physics; and Jackie Radigan, graduate student, and David Lafreniere, post-doctoral fellow, astronomy and astrophysics, and Ida Ferrinho, assistant to the vice-dean (interdisciplinary affairs) (secretary).

### Paintings and Drawings by Watermarks. February 2 to March 1

Exhibition of paintings and drawings by Watermarks (previously The Franklin Four): Wendy Bannerman, Alan Horne, Janet Ellis Kaye and Bev Morgan. Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to

#### MISCELLANY

#### Féis nan Oran (Song Festival). Saturday, February 7

Festival features the best of Gaelic singing from both sides of the Atlantic. Join Scotland's renowned Gaelic singer Catherine-Ann MacPhee and Cape Breton's Mary Jane Lamon for a day of workshops. Alumni Hall, St. Michael's College, 121 St. Joseph St. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets \$40, \$20 non-U of T students, U of T students and native speakers, free. Celtic Studies and Gaelic Society of Toronto

#### DEADLINES

Please note that information for the Events listing must be received at the Bulletin offices, 21 King's College Circle, by the following times:

Issue of Feb. 10 for events taking place Feb. 10 to 24: Tuesday, January 27.

Issue of Feb. 24 for events taking place Feb. 24 to March 10: Tuesday, February

We also encourage you to post events on the events calendar website (www.events.utoronto.ca). For information regarding the Events section please contact Ailsa Ferguson at 416-978-6981: ailsa.ferguson@utoronto.ca.

# Missed an issue? visit www.news.utoronto.ca/bulletin.html



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# 12th Annual Jus Lecture

in honour of Dr. Andrzej Jus

(THIS SEMINAR WILL ALSO BE WEBCAST) (http://epresence.ehealthinnovation.org/epresence)

"Knowledge, Values, Neuroscience"

Judy Illes, PhD Professor of Neurology Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics The University of British Columbia

Thursday, 29 January 2009, 4:10 - 5:15 pm University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics 88 College St., Great Hall

Abstract: Never has the potential for predicting behavior and cognition in health and disease been closer at hand, nor have the ethical implications of such capabilities been more profound. Functional brain imaging techniques are at the heart of this potential, raising possibilities for predicting the future onset of neurologic disease in currently healthy people, opening new windows to the understanding of limited consciousness in brain-injured patients and, together with neurogenomics, yielding signatures of disorders of mental health, including bipolar disease, schizophrenia and addiction. Advances in neuroscience are thus raising the stakes on what it means to gaze into our personal well-being. However, are there some features about ourselves that we would rather not know? How shall we value new forms of brain data that are informative on the one hand, but that may present risks to privacy on the other? How do concepts of brain health and boundaries of acceptability for neurotechnology differ between societies, cultures and religions? This Jus Lecture will focus on such critical questions for our modern society and the "Neuroethics Challenge" of neuroscience innovation.

Admission Free - No Registration Required

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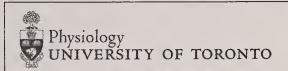
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## 5th John K. and Mary E. Davidson Lectureship and Award

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### Bradford B. Lowell MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Center for Life Sciences Boston, MA

"Genetic Dissection of Neural Circuits Controlling Energy Homeostasis"

Thursday February 5th, 2009 at 4pm

Medical Sciences Bldg. Room 3153 Faculty of Medicine

### LECTURES AT THE LEADING EDGE CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Wednesday, January 28 Donald R. Sadoway

Materials Science and Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Electrochemical Pathways towards Sustainability

> Wednesday, February 4 **Bryan Karney**

Civil Engineering, University of Toronto

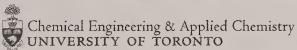
The Challenges and Opportunities of a More Holistic Approach to the Evaluation of Energy Systems

> Wednesday, March 11 Warren Chan

IBBME, Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Materials Science and Engineering, University of Toronto State of Nanotechnology in Biology and Medicine

> All lectures begin at 12:30 pm and are open to the public.

Wallberg Building, 200 College Street, Rm. 116 (N.E. Corner of College and St. George Streets). www.chem-eng.utoronto.ca



# Can Indigenous Education Save the World?

An Anishnabe scholar and educator weighs in

BY DEBORAH MCGREGOR

I have been giving this subject much thought recently, particularly as my 12-year-old son queries me about the discrepancy between what he is learning in school about Aboriginal Peoples and what he experiences in his life as a First Nations person.

What is indigenous education? This is not an easy question to answer and one to which numerous scholars have devoted a good portion of their careers. I agree with Gregory Cajete, a renowned Tewa educator, when he states that one of the defining characteristics of indigenous education is that it is inherently environmental. It is about learning and sharing one's lifeways to ensure proper relations with all of Creation.

Creation includes people, animals, plants, forests, mountains, seas, rivers ... the environment, so to speak. It also includes all the processes of Creation (transformation, re-creation, etc.) that occur on a continual cycle and require our constant attention. Aboriginal views of Creation extend beyond the western construct of environment, however, to include our ancestors as well as those yet to come.

As part of our colonial experience with the "newcomers" to Canada, indigenous education's role of enabling relationships with Creation has been under attack for the past two centuries. In recent times, however, there has begun to be something of a resurgence in indigenous education. Aboriginal people have begun to reassert the importance of indigenous education not only to Aboriginal Peoples but to all peoples across the globe.

To be effective in realizing the goals of indigenous education in this modern context, it has become critical to find appropriate methods of sharing our ways with others. Given that such sharing is already beginning to take place, what might indigenous education mean in relation to the environmental crisis facing the planet?

To begin answering that question, we can look back to what might be seen as a starting point for this resurgence in indigenous education. It was in 1972 that the National Indian Brotherhood (now the Assembly of First Nations) released its milestone policy paper, Indian Control of Indian Education, thereby launching aboriginal people into a new era of education-related decisionmaking. Even at that time, the indigenous philosophy of education put forward contains a powerful environmental theme, consistent with traditional indigenous world views. One of the lessons viewed as necessary for survival in the 20th century was described as follows: "Living in Harmony with nature will



ensure preservation of the balance between man and his environment which is necessary for the future of our planet, as well as for fostering the climate in which Indian Wisdom has always flourished."

Aboriginal people have always made it clear that indigenous education is centred on learning about our relationships with Creation and fulfilling our responsibilities to that Creation, thereby ensuring what has recently come to be referred to as sustainability. Indigenous cultural traditions speak to these responsibilities. For example, Creation stories provide instructions to all beings so that they may learn to live in harmonious co-existence with each other.

Perhaps one of the most compelling aspects of indigenous education is that we learn from our traditions that the Earth is alive; it is a spiritual being and must be respected as such. Our education and teachings therefore come not only from our parents, relatives, grandmothers and grandfathers, elders, teachers, communities and nations but also from Creation itself (including animals, plants, the moon, the stars, water, wind and the spirit world). We learn through visions, ceremonies, prayers, songs, dances and performances, intuitions, dreams and personal experiences.

The relationship with Creation and

its beings was meant to be maintained and enhanced and the knowledge required for this to occur was passed on for generations over thousands of years. The responsibilities that one assumed as part of our education were necessary to ensure the continuation of Creation: again, what academics, scientists and environmentalists might today call sustainability.

The lifeways and knowledge that supported sustainable relationships with Creation are now often referred to as "traditional knowledge" (TK), an idea that has in recent years become important to non-indigenous societies. There are now efforts in Canada and throughout the world to learn more about TK and apply it to addressing the environmental challenges we face on the planet.

One of the current challenges I face when I address the topic of environmental issues and traditional knowledge in teaching is creating the understanding that it is relevant for addressing the current challenges we face; not everyone is convinced of its importance. In response to this, I point out that if we examine the lessons to be learned from TK, often through stories or other teachings, they inform us about critically important ecological principles. Key principles that emerge from the Anishinabe Re-creation Story for example, are that: everything is important, all beings in Creation have a role, co-operation and co-existence

will lead to survival, everything is connected to everything else and all life must be respected. Principles such as these, adhered to not only in ceremony but in everyday living, ensured that indigenous peoples lived harmoniously and in balance with the rest of Creation.

Today, these principles can also be thought of as vital principles in ecological science. For example, we now know that industrial activities in one part of the world affect people and the environment in another — climate change being the currently most well-known example. One can't help feeling that today's world might have been a greener place had colonial societies paid heed to at least some of these aboriginal examples of ecological thinking. Given that we are where we are, however, it seems that now more than ever the principles and values that inform traditional knowledge are needed. It is my understanding that all of us have a responsibility to share our knowledge, from the youngest students to the wisest of the elders.

Existing traditional knowledge is vitally important for ensuring our continued coexistence with all of Creation. However, there also exists the ability to create new knowledge to help us address new challenges. Gregory Cajete (2000), in his book Native Science: Natural Laws of Interdependence, observes that: "It was understood that knowledge and creativity have their source in a person's inner being and in their personal journeying and thinking. Self-reliance, even in young children, is based on the belief that all persons have the ability to know and to share, to bring forward great strides in understanding and knowledge. Consequently, there are many myths revolving around the learning experiences of young people, as well as their roles in bringing new knowledge to the people."

Indigenous education in the 21st century therefore means that we can continue to engage in creative processes based on traditional teachings to foster understanding of TK and its potential role in addressing environmental challenges. At the University of Toronto, we aim to contribute in at least a small way to restoring balance in Creation by renewing traditional knowledge and sharing our knowledge through the aboriginal studies program and First Nations House.

Deborah McGregor is a professor in the aboriginal studies program at the University of Toronto and is Anishnabe from Wiigwaskingaa (Whitefish River First Nation, Birch Island, Ontario). This essay first appeared in FNH (First Nations House) magazine.